

### Impact on Wild and Scenic Rivers

Should a proposed project have an adverse effect on a river on the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System or a river listed in the Nationwide Inventory of Rivers with potential for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, early coordination needs to be conducted with the National Park Service (NPS) and the Department of Agriculture (USDA). The environmental study should identify any potential significant adverse effects on the natural, cultural, and recreational values of the inventory river. Adverse effects include alteration of the setting, the free-flowing nature of the river or the water quality. If it is determined that the proposed action could foreclose options to designate the river under the act, the environmental study should reflect consultation with the NPS and USDA on avoiding or mitigating the impacts. The document should indicate measures to avoid or mitigate impacts.

Publicly owned waters of designated wild and scenic rivers are protected by Section 4(f). Additionally, public lands adjacent to a Wild and Scenic River may be subject to Section 4(f) protection. An examination of any adopted or proposed management plan for a listed river should be helpful in making the determination on applicability of Section 4(f). For each alternative that takes such land, coordination with the agency responsible for managing the river (either NPS, USFWS, or FS) will provide information on the management plan, specific affected land uses and any necessary Section 4(f) coordination.

At present, there are no federally designated Wild and Scenic Rivers located in Indiana. For information concerning State protected Natural and Scenic Rivers contact IDNR/Outdoor Recreation.